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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/524,354	02/14/2005	Koichi Goto	450100-05121	6316

7590 04/20/2007
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EXAMINER

KARIMI, PEGEMAN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2609

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/20/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/524,354

Applicant(s)

GOTO ET AL.

Examiner

Pegeman Karimi

Art Unit

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– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 February 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 February 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/14/2005.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.
3. The response JP-A-2001-2030908 cited on page 1, line 17 of the specification should be provided so that it can be considered.
4. The use of phrase "according to the invention of claim 1" on Page 2, lines 21-22 of the specification should be avoided because claim 1 may be cancelled or amended.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-8 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Beernink (U.S. Patent 5,434,929).

As to claims 1 and 5, Beernink discloses an input method using an input apparatus (10) in which

a touch panel (52 and 24') is laminated onto a display screen (72) of a display apparatus (50), (col. 5, lines 61-64),

a sensor unit (72) is formed so as to be expanded to the outside of one side of said display screen (i.e. 72 includes display screen 52 and keypad 24'. Keypad 24' is arranged outside of the side screen 52), (col. 4, lines 36-39)

an instruction (pop-up window of command icon) according to a touching position of a finger or a touch pen (38) onto said sensor unit is given (col.7, lines 39-47), and

a controller (18) generates a control signal on the basis of said instruction (col. 4, lines 1-2),

comprising the steps of:

displaying a selection display (76) comprising a plurality of selection items (82) along said side of said display screen (Horizontal side of the display) when the finger or the touch pen (38) is touched to said sensor unit (col. 8, lines 49-51, and lines 58-60);

instructing (e.g. highlight) one of said selection items (82) when the finger or the touch pen is moved along said side on said sensor unit (e.g. 82 is highlighted when a user touches A, B, C, etc. arranged along the horizontal side of the screen), (col. 8, lines 58-60);

and instructing selection of said instructed selection item when the finger or the touch pen is released (lifting the stylus) from said sensor unit (col. 7, lines 45-50 and col. 9, lines 43-49).

As to claims 2 and 6, Beernink teaches, operating a predetermined button (64) on a display/sensor unit of said touch panel (24') overlapped with said display screen(24' overlaps 72), an instruction corresponding to said button is generated (col. 5, lines 23-27 and col. 7, lines 39-42).

As to claims 3 and 7, Beernink teaches selection display is finished when the finger or the touch pen is moved (lifted) from said sensor unit to said display screen side (tapping on box 94, which is located on the display screen side, col. 9, lines 15-19), (col. 7, lines 47-50).

As to claims 4 and 8, Beernink teaches the selection display is a menu display (col. 7, lines 45-47).

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Capps et al. (U.S. Patent 5,644,657) discloses a method for locating and displaying information in a pointer-based computer system.

Haitani et al. (U.S. Patent 5,900,875) discloses a method and apparatus for interacting with a portable computer system.

Amin et al. (U.S. Patent 6,208,340) discloses a GUI including a drop-down widget that permits a plurality of choices to be selected in response to a single selection of the drop-down widget.

Shwartz et al. (U.S. Patent 5,524,201) discloses a method of preparing an electronic book for a computer system by using a stylus.

Inquiries

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pegeman Karimi whose telephone number is (571) 270-1712. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:00am - 5:00pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chanh Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-7772. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2609

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Pegeman Karimi
April/12/2007


CHANH D. NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER